

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

47

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FROM: TAMPICO

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ACTION DEPARTMENT 3, INFORMATION MEXICO CITY 4.

REFERENCE: DEPCIRTEL 465

PRESS GIVING TOP PLAY CUBAN NEWS WITH EACH US OR SOVIET STATEMENT HEADLINED AND REPORTED IN DETAIL. CONDEMNATION OF CASTRO INCREASED AND SEVERAL ANTI-CASTRO CARTOONS APPEARED. WHILE PRESS WILL NOT ADVOCATE POLICY AT VARIANCE WITH MEXICAN GOVERNMENT, TONE DEFINITELY FAVORS US POSITION. SOVIET THREATS CONSIDERED BLUFF.

NO OFFICIAL REACTION FORTHCOMING PARTLY DUE CURRENT ABSORPTION IN GUBERNATORIAL POLITICS. HOWEVER NAVAL OFFICERS COMMENT CUBAN DEVELOPMENTS REQUIRE MEXICO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL MEANS TO GUARD COASTS EFFECTIVELY.

GENERAL PUBLIC APPEARS APATHETIC BUT WILL FOLLOW ANY LINE ADOPTED BY MEXICAN GOVERNMENT. BUSINESS AND PROPERTIED CLASS GENERALLY VIEW SOVIET BUILDUP IN CUBA AS THREAT TO LATIN AMERICA AND PRIVATELY FAVOR OAS OR UN INTERVENTION. LEFTIST CIRCLES, STUDENT AND INTELLECTUAL, CONCERNED AT EVIDENCE CASTRO REGIME'S SUBSERVIENCE TO SOVIETS AND BRUTALITY TO CUBAN PEOPLE BUT REMAIN STRONGLY AGAINST ANY INTERVENTION.

WARNER

CJ/23

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